



SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-424, OMB Control No. 3235-0473]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 17Ad-3(b)

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From:

Securities and Exchange Commission

Office of FOIA Services

100 F Street, NE

Washington, DC 20549-2736

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (“PRA”) (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 17Ad-3(b) (17 CFR 240.17Ad-3(b)), under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) for extension and approval.

Rule 17Ad-3(b) requires registered transfer agents to send a copy of the written notice required under Rule 17Ad-2(c), (d), and (h) to the chief executive officer of each issuer for which the transfer agent acts when it has failed to turnaround at least 75% of all routine items in accordance with the requirements of Rule 17Ad-2(a), or to process at least 75% of all items in accordance with the requirements of Rule 17Ad-2(b), for two consecutive months. The issuer may use the information contained in the notices: (1) as an early warning of the transfer agent’s non-compliance with the Commission’s minimum performance standards regarding registered transfer agents; and (2) to become aware of certain problems and poor performances with respect to the transfer agents that are servicing the issuer’s issues. If the issuer does not receive notice of a registered

transfer agent's failure to comply with the Commission's minimum performance standards, then the issuer will be unable to take remedial action to correct the problem or to find another registered transfer agent. Pursuant to Rule 17Ad-3(b), a transfer agent that has already filed a Notice of Non-Compliance with the Commission pursuant to Rule 17Ad-2 will only be required to send a copy of that notice to issuers for which it acts when that transfer agent fails to turnaround 75% of all routine items or to process 75% of all items for two consecutive months.

The Commission estimates that only one transfer agent will be subject to the third party disclosure requirements of Rule 17Ad-3(b) each year. If a transfer agent fails to meet the turnaround and processing requirements under 17Ad-3(b), it would simply send its issuer-clients a copy of the notice that had already been produced for the Commission pursuant to Rule 17Ad-2(c) or (d). The Commission estimates the requirement will take the transfer agent approximately four hours to complete. The total estimated burden associated with Rule 17Ad-3(b) is thus approximately 4 hours per year. The Commission estimates that the internal compliance cost for the transfer agent to comply with this third party disclosure requirement will be approximately \$1,128 per year (4 hours x \$283 per hour = \$1,128). The total estimated internal cost of compliance associated with Rule 17Ad-3(b) is thus approximately \$1,128 per year. There are no external costs associated with sending the notice to issuer-clients.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: July 25, 2023.

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Deputy Secretary.

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